

Message Text

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TAGS: SHUM, UN, SW, OVIP (KARIN SODER)

SUBJECT: SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER ON RACISM IN SWEDEN

1. THE SWEDISH AFTERNOON PRESS JUNE 20 REPORTED STATEMENTS
OF FOREIGN MINISTER KARIN SODER TO A PRESS CONFERENCE IN
NEW YORK. FOLLOWING ARTICLE IS FROM EXPRESSEN.

2. "TODAY KARIN SODER WILL MEET WITH THE AMERICAN UN
AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG IN UN HEADQUARTERS. IT'S THE SAME
YOUNG WHO RECENTLY CALLED SWEDES RACISTS. 'I WILL NOT
BRING UP THE SUBJECT UNLESS HE MENTIONS IT,' SAID MS. SODER
YESTERDAY AT AN IMPROVISED PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE SWEDISH
UN OFFICE. 'ANDREW YOUNG HAS EXPLAINED HIS POINT OF VIEW
TO OUR UN AMBASSADOR ANDERS THUNBORG AND, BY THAT, THE MATTER
IS CLOSED, FROM OUR SIDE AT LEAST,' SAID MS. SODER. 'I DO
NOT SHARE ANDREW YOUNG'S OPINION THAT WE SWEDES ARE RACISTS.
BUT I WISH TO UNDERLINE THAT WE IN SWEDEN ARE NO BETTER THAN
OTHERS. WE HAVE TRIED TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY TO ASSIMILATE
OUR 700,000 FOREIGNERS INTO OUR SOCIETY AND THEY
IN THEIR TURN HAVE GREATLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE HIGH
SWEDISH STANDARD OF LIVING.' THE BLACK UN AMBASSADOR'S
STATEMENTS ABOUT SWEDISH RACISM AND THE CAR-GANG RIOT IN
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SODERTALJE WILL NO DOUBT BE QUESTIONS KARIN SODER WILL
HEAR A LOT ABOUT DURING HER ENTIRE US VISIT. THE RIOTS
IN SODERTALJE CAME PROMPTLY AFTER YOUNG'S STATEMENTS.
AND ALREADY YESTERDAY, KARIN SODER HAD TO ANSWER QUESTIONS
ABOUT THE RIOTS TO THE AMERICAN PRESS. 'I KNOW THAT THE
RIOT BECAME BIG NEWS IN THE STATES. BUT UNFORTUNATELY
NOBY HAD MENTIONED THAT THE TWO PARTIES MET A COUPLE

OF DAYS LATER AND MADE UP PEACEFULLY,' SAID MS. SODER.
IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THAT WE ARE NOT RESENTFUL IN
SWEDEN, KARIN SODER AND LEIF LEIFLAND HAVE PRESENTED
ANDREW YOUNG WITH AN OFFICIAL INVITATION FROM OLA ULLSTEN.
THE INVITATION IS FOR A VISIT TO SWEDEN THIS SUMMER.
THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED AND WILL
PROBABLY COME IN THE LATTER PART OF AUGUST. AFTER THE
MEETING WITH YOUNG, MS. SODER WILL FLY TO WASHINGTON.
THERE SHE WILL MEET WITH HER AMERICAN COLLEAGUE CYRUS VANCE
AND AMONG OTHER THINGS WILL INFORM HIM ABOUT OUR VIEWS ON
DISARMAMENT. THEN SHE WILL CONTINUE TO THE WHITE HOUSE.
NOT TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT CARTER, BUT VICE PRESIDENT
WALTER MONDALE. SHE HOPES TO BE ABLE TO PERSUADE MONDALE
TO COME TO STOCKHOLM FOR THE SO-CALLED CLUB OF ROME."
PERRY

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